Pipeline Project. Various important issues, *viz.*, pricing of gas, delivery point of gas and transportation tariff and transit fees for passage of natural gas through Pakistan territory are under discussion amongst the participating countries. Five meetings of India-Pakistan Joint Working Group (JWG) have been held. Three meetings of India-Iran Special JWG have been held. Six meetings of tripartite JWG of Iran, Pakistan and India have been held. Further, a Ministerial-level meeting between India and Pakistan on the IPI Project has also been held in Islamabad on April 25,2008.

Such multilateral projects involve protracted discussions, as all the aspects have to be carefully examined and deliberated upon to the satisfaction of the participating countries to protect each country's interests and to avoid any problems in the future in the successful operation of the project.

India as a preferred business destination

*55. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a FORBES study, containing a comparative business analysis from various angles in 121 countries, has ascribed India's fall in ranking this year from 51st to 64th to "demonstrated resistance to increasing personal freedom, higher inflation from food and other commodity costs, as well as increased burdens on entrepreneurs, etc."; and

(b) if so, what steps Government proposes to take so that India becomes a preferred "Business Destination" in the fast emerging global market?

THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government takes appropriate steps to facilitate and promote the operation of business in the country, through requisite policy and administrative initiatives for creating and maintaining an environment conducive to investment and growth.

Increasing Supply of Dollars

*56. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the RBI has announced a package of measures aimed at increasing the supply of dollars and augmenting liquidity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the exchange rate is primarily determined by demand and supply and the outflow of portfolio capital aggravated the rupee's fall; and

(d) if so, the response of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The RBI has announced a package of measures aimed at improving domestic and foreign currency liquidity in September and October, 2008 as under: